



Terms of Reference

The Case for a Green / Brown Water Force

*History shows we always wind up there,
whether we want to or not.*

Revolution (1777)

Barbary Coast (1804)

Seminole War (1818)

Civil War (1860)

Caribbean (1911)

WWII (1941)

Korea (1950)

Vietnam (1967)

Libya (1986)

Counter-drug (1980s)

Persian Gulf (1987)

Persian Gulf (1990)

Persian Gulf (2003)

Horn of Africa (2005)

*Let's do something different NEXT time and NOT reinvent
the green water / brown water wheel.*

Most of the world's maritime traffic and resources are within littoral waters.

The odds are very good we are going to be on the offense, not playing defense.

Our asymmetric blue-water advantage will drive our future opponents to fight where they have the best odds – the brown water/blue water environment.

This environment will lead to larger numbers of our younger officers getting combat and command experience early on.

If we expect our allies to contribute to the 1000 ship Navy, we'll have to know how that part of the Navy works. We'll have to put our people where our policy is.

What makes more sense?

***Steaming around in circles in the
North Atlantic?***

or

***Sending sailors to conduct
littoral and riverine operations
on the Tigris and Euphrates?***